

REMARKS

The Examiner's Action mailed on November 3, 2006, has been received and its contents carefully considered. It is respectfully submitted that the amendment be entered in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.116(b)(1) as merely cancelling claims.

In this Amendment, Applicants have cancelled claims 6-8 and 11-13 without prejudice. Claim 1 is the sole independent claim, and claims 1-5 are pending in the application. For at least the following reasons, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 1-5.

Claims 6-8, 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b) as anticipated by *Hulman* (US 5,367,242), and claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as obvious over the combination of *Hulman* with *Kuennen et al.* (US 6,825,620 B2). These rejections are respectfully moot, as claims 6-8 and 11-13 have been cancelled.

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Such action and the passing of this case to issue are requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Should any fee be required, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002, and advise us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,



February 2, 2007
Date

Alun L. Palmer – Reg. No. 47,838
RABIN & BERDO, PC – Cust. No. 23995
Facsimile: 202-408-0924
Telephone: 202-371-8976

ALP/atl